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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 16 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 10 totaled an estimated 18.1 billion ton-miles. 2.2 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 45 weeks of 1979 was an estimated 781 billion ton-miles, 5.3 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 10 totaled 479,741 cars, 5.1 percent below 1978, and 1.5 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 12.8 percent in the East, 0.1 percent in the South, and 1.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1978, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, grain loadings recorded a gain of 4,461 cars, or 15.4 percent. Loadings of coal totaled 113,862, 2.8 percent below 1978. Loadings of motor vehicles and eqiupment were down 6,049 cars, or 21.8 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups were down from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 3 totaled 38,124 cars, down 1.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1978, and 67,655 trailers and/or containers, 0.4 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 44 weeks of the year was 1,587,461, 1.8 percent higher than last year, and 2,803,350 trailers and/or containers, up 4.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/10.[1]

	Loadings in Week ended November 10, 1979	Change from Corresponding Week 1978		Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars	Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	33,405	I 4,461	15.4	I 1,680	5.3
Other farm products	6,478	D 1,190	15.5	I 492	8.2
Metallic ores	31,494	D 4,514	12.5	D 840	2.6
Coal	113,862	D 3,271	2.8	D 1,890	1.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	17,326	D 3,474	16.7	D 250	1.4
Nonmetallic minerals	15,824	I 1,614	11.4	I 202	1.3
Grain mill products	19,055	D 943	4.7	I 482	2.6
Food and kindred products	18,869	D 775	3.9	D 354	1.8
Primary forest products	21,380	D 416	1.9	I 457	2.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	10,541	D 1,822	14.7	D 760	6.7
Pulp, paper and allied products	21,100	D 250	1.2	D 1,135	5.1
Chemicals and allied products	28,482	I 471	1.7	I 7	0.0
Petroleum products	6,051	D 492	7.5	I 135	2.3
Stone, clay and glass products	17,975	D 1,928	9.7	D 1,137	5.9
Coke	6,013	D 1,792	23.0	I 369	6.5
Metals and products	17,602	D 1,158	6.2	D 2,074	10.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,761	D 6,049	21.8	D 446	2.0
Waste and scrap materials	13,959	D 633	4.3	I 127	0.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	12,482	D 346	2.7	D 792	6.0
All other carloads	45,717	D 2,922	6.0	D 1,354	2.9
LCL traffic	365	D 152	29.4	D 20	5.2
Total Cars Loaded	479,741	D 25,581	5.1	D 7,101	1.5
Corresponding week of 1978	505,322				

	1979	1978	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (45 weeks)	20,846,128	20,222,760	I 3.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
44 weeks cumulative	762.5	722.9	I 5.5
Week ended November 10	18.1	18.5	D 2.2
45 weeks cumulative	780.6	741.3	I 5.3

[1] The figures above include 12 railroads no longer considered Class I roads when the qualifying requirement for Class I companies was raised by the ICC from $10 million to $50 million in annual operating revenues as of January 1, 1978.

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